What is the purpose of a zoning ordinance?

The City of Flagstaff's zoning ordinance or Land Development Code (LDC) is adopted in accordance with Arizona Revised Statutes in order to further the legislative intent of "protecting and promoting the public health, safety and general welfare of the citizens of Flagstaff, providing for orderly growth", etc. (LDC Division 10-01-002).

The purpose of the LDC is further established in Division 10-01-003, and may be summarized as:

- Furthering the legislative intent, i.e. protecting the public health, safety and general welfare of the citizens of Flagstaff;
- Organizing all the regulations for the development of land within the City;
- Organizing the regulations in "a form which is comprehensive, straightforward, and easily understood and usable";
- The implementation of the adopted General Plan (i.e. Flagstaff Area Regional Land Use and Transportation Plan or "Regional Plan").